

Spy Pond Committee Meeting, May 2, 2017

Present: Jane Howard, Bill Eykamp, Steve Ricci, Judi Berman, Harriet Noyes, Brad Barber, Stroker Rogovin, Agnes O'Donnell, Cheryl Miller, Deb Goldsmith, Jacob Friis

Approved Minutes: The April minutes were approved with a minor correction.

Trails Day Planning: Stroker talked about the status of Trails Day. The May 6 event has been cancelled and the town informed. The May 13 event will happen rain or shine. Members of the Committee are to direct volunteers to the various activities. Projects were discussed: fence painting, poison ivy removal, invasive plant removal, etc. Members will post notices to various outlets. Stroker reviewed needed supplies and who is bringing what. The DPW will collect waste; invasive plants should be placed in plastic bags with "Invasive Weeds" stickers. Boy Scouts from Watertown may be there, in addition to other scouts. All are welcome to stay for lunch afterward (bring your own).

Secchi Disk Readings: Bill discussed his recent Secchi disk readings, which set a new record for turbidity. Other committee members agreed that the pond is the cloudiest they've seen since the Committee began. The cause is reddish brown algae, which occurs in cold water and will dissipate when the water warms. However, the amount of algae indicates high nutrient levels, which may mean a problem with green algae later in the year. Brad reported that he spoke to Lake Solitude about it; they feel that it will probably settle down, but if we still have a problem in June, they can come take a look.

Fish Kill: Brad reported receiving a note about a fish kill from a Kelwyn Manor resident. Approximately 20 small fish, not carp. It was agreed that this is likely normal and not indicative of a serious problem.

Ten Years of Spy Pond Reports: The Committee received past reports from Dominic at Aquatic Control Technologies. They will be digitized and put on the website. Members of the Committee reviewed highlights of the reports.

Egg Addling: Jane asked about egg addling. Bill reported that he believes all eggs have been addled and that there will be no goslings this year. Jacob reviewed the past history of egg addling. From a height of 95 eggs in 19 nests, this year we are down to 28 eggs in 7 nests. There have been no goslings for the past four years. The phragmites project has reduced cover for nests. There is, however, a swan's nest containing eight eggs.

Spy Pond Committee Barbeque: Jane asked whether there will be a barbeque this year. There will be, on June 6th at Brad's house.

The meeting was adjourned.